

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Stephen M. Jasinski, Phosphate Rock Commodity Specialist
U.S. Geological Survey
983 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-7711, Fax: (703) 648-7722
E-mail: sjasinsk@usgs.gov

Roxanne DeLong (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7997
Fax: (703) 648-7975
MINES FaxBack: (703) 648-4999
Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN DECEMBER 1999

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in December 1999 decreased 3% compared to the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Total production for the year was 40.7 million metric tons, which was 8% lower than the total production in 1998.

Domestic phosphate rock sold or used, excluding exports for December, decreased 5% from the prior month, to 3.1 million tons. Total sales or use for the year was 41.3 million tons, which was 5% lower than the total for 1998.

U.S. producer ending stocks for December were 1% lower than the figure shown in November.

Some phosphate rock import data for Morocco are suppressed by the Bureau of the Census. U.S. import tonnage was estimated by USGS to average 180,000 tons per month in 1999. December import data were not available at the time of publication.

Apparent domestic consumption for 1999, calculated from the sum of home deliveries and adjusted import data, was 43.2 million tons, compared with 45.0 million tons in 1998.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS, BY REGION 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Region and period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks 2/
United States:			
1998:			
December	3,480	3,530	7,920
January - December	44,200	43,700	XX
1999:			
January	3,410	3,400	7,730
February	3,070	3,190	7,600
March	3,500	3,710	7,340
April	3,280	3,640	6,880
May	3,680	3,940	6,620
June	3,690	3,400	6,910
July	3,540	3,610	6,750
August	3,690	3,530	6,920
September	3,140	3,220	6,820
October	3,560	3,290	7,040
November	3,120 r/	3,280 r/	7,060 r/
December	3,040	3,130	6,980
Total	40,700	41,300	XX
Florida and North Carolina:			
1998:			
December	3,110	3,130	6,540
January - December	38,700	38,000	XX
1999:			
January	2,970	2,990	6,420
February	2,760	2,840	6,330
March	3,120	3,290	6,100
April	2,780	3,150	5,620
May	3,100	3,340	5,380
June	3,030	2,940	5,430
July	2,980	3,010	5,300
August	3,080	3,070	5,320
September	2,690	2,700	5,300
October	2,840	2,880	5,200
November	2,810 r/	2,880 r/	5,300 r/
December	2,700	2,710	5,300
Total	34,900	35,800	XX
Idaho and Utah:			
1998:			
December	368	403	1,380
January - December	5,490	5,640	XX
1999:			
January	436	413	1,310
February	314	352	1,280
March	375	412	1,240
April	499	483	1,260
May	582	604	1,240
June	662	461	1,480
July	563	602	1,440
August	614	459	1,600
September	445	520	1,530
October	726	407	1,850
November	306	392	1,760
December	343	425	1,680
Total	5,870	5,530	XX

r/ Revised. XX Not applicable.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK 1/ 2/ 3/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value
1998:		
November	--	--
December	62	3,800
January - December	806	42,400
Total year 4/	1,760	92,700
1999:		
January	60	3,280
February	63	3,420
March	68	3,670
April	66	4,000
May	69	4,110
June	64	3,820
July	1	69
August	88	5,000
September	132	6,730
October	68	4,040
November	67	4,010
Total	746	42,100

1/ C.i.f. (cost, insurance, and freight) values at U.S. ports.

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Data for the current month were not available at time of publication.

4/ Includes estimate for data suppressed by Bureau of the Census.

Source: Bureau of the Census; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	1997	1998	1999
Marketable production:			
Florida and North Carolina	39.8	38.7	34.9
Idaho and Utah	6.1	5.5	5.9
Total 1/	45.9	44.2	40.7
Sold or used by producers:			
Florida and North Carolina	36.6	38.0	35.8
Idaho and Utah	5.5	5.6	5.5
Total 1/	42.1	43.7	41.3
Yearend stocks	7.9	7.9	7.0
Exports 2/	0.3	0.4	0.3
Average value per ton	\$34.80	\$42.70	\$48.94
Imports for consumption e/	1.8	1.8	2.2
Average value per ton	\$50.19	\$52.66	NA
Apparent consumption e/ 3/	43.6	45.0	43.2

e/ Estimated. NA Not available.

1/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

2/ Source: Bureau of the Census.

3/ Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports minus exports.

TABLE 4
MOROCCAN
PHOSPHATE ROCK EXPORTS 1/
JANUARY - DECEMBER 1999

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination	Quantity
Australia	279
Austria	118
Belgium	567
Brazil	276
Bulgaria	117
France	854
Germany	152
Greece	215
India	216
Iran	258
Ireland	3
Italy	76
Japan	184
Korea, Republic of	305
Mexico	1,750
Netherlands	1
New Zealand	397
Pakistan	270
Peru	25
Poland	408
Romania	192
Serbia and Montenegro	260
Spain	1,990
Taiwan	48
Thailand	32
Turkey	43
United States	2,170
Uruguay	5
Venezuela	175
Total	11,400

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits;
may not add to total shown.

Source: Office Cherifien des Phosphates--
Casablanca, Morocco